

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 24, 2005. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 1-7 are presently pending. No new matter has been added.

Specification

The Applicant has amended the title of the invention as requested in the Office Action. The Applicants requests withdrawal of this objection.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-7 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,963,533 and claim 2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,928,056. While not necessarily agreeing with this rejection of the claims, accompanying this Amendment is a terminal disclaimer over these two patents. The Applicant notes that the present patent application is assigned to Nokia, Inc. and U.S. Patent No. 6,928,056 is assigned to Nokia Networks Oy. Both Nokia, Inc. and Nokia Networks Oy are wholly owned by Nokia Corp. and, therefore, the present application and the '056 Patent are commonly owned. The present application and U.S. Patent No. 6,963,533 are both owned by Nokia, Inc. In view of the terminal disclaimer, the Applicant requests withdrawal of the double patenting rejections of claims 1-7.

§102 Rejection

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,580,688 to Klink ("Klink".) The Applicant traverses this rejection.

Claim 7 has been amended to recite "at the first location, inverse multiplexing the cell stream over the data links that are trained at a optimal rate and set to active status" and "at the second location, receiving and multiplexing the inverse multiplexed cell stream from each of the active trained data links to produce the cell stream." Klink does not teach or suggest such a method.

Accordingly, claim 7 is patentable over Klink and the Applicant request withdrawal of the rejection of this claim.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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